

# **Town of Edgewood, New Mexico Comprehensive Plan**

## **Action Plan Recommendations**

NOTE: Numbering of these Recommendations does not indicate priority. In order to provide a correlation to adopted Goals and Objectives for the Town, reference codes are shown in brackets (for example, Objective number one of Goal A is identified as A-1). The red bulleted statements under each Recommendation are intended to provide further explanation about the Recommendation itself.

### **Category: Land Development Strategies**

- 1) **Review, refine and impose regulatory ordinances of the Town to ensure protection of rural residential character while allowing for essential non-residential development in the community.** [A-1, A-2, A-5, C-2, F-4, K-1, K-4, L-1]
  - Utilize performance standards and other criteria to control site development and reduce the negative off-site impacts of development.
  - Require adequate screening or buffering of new or expanded commercial areas from adjacent existing or planned residential development.
  - Restrict commercial and industrial development that would result in traffic volumes which would exceed the capacity of access streets.
  - Recognize and accommodate the trends in home based businesses and home occupations.
  - Manage development around Sandia Airpark to ensure public safety and eliminate airspace encroachments, and to provide options for airport operations.
  - Monitor and regulate subdivision proposals outside the municipal limits and within the designated Planning and Platting Jurisdiction.
  - Impose regulations to reduce the potential for air, light, and noise pollution caused by development and land use activities.
  - Development policies and ordinances of the Town should be applied consistently and uniformly.
- 2) **Identify locations for new development where adequate facilities and services are or will be available to support such development.** [A-3, A-4]
  - Identify appropriate areas for mixed-use development, commercial activity zones, business incubators, recreational facilities, and community centers.
  - Designate specific areas for intensive land use such as industrial or heavy commercial development and provide for adequate buffering or separation from the residential neighborhoods.
  - Transitions between distinctly differing types of land uses should not create a negative economic, social, or physical impact on adjoining developments.

- General criteria for guiding the location, distribution, and type of non-residential or mixed-use development should be based on factors such as:
    - primary access to major streets;
    - proximity to major street intersections;
    - accessibility of adequate infrastructure;
    - appropriate zoning district;
    - appropriate scale and intensity of development;
    - continuity of development;
    - neighborhood and community serving functions; and
    - minimal environmental impact.
- 3) **Protect and emphasize the historic, cultural, and scenic assets of the Edgewood area.** [A-6, C-1, J-1, J-2]
- Establish and maintain an inventory of historic and/or cultural elements of the Edgewood area.
  - Identify and seek to protect scenic features and view corridors within the Town of Edgewood.
  - Develop a long range plan for protection of lands for open space or conservation of natural resources through fee-simple acquisition or purchase of development rights.
  - Encourage utilities to be installed underground whenever possible.
  - Regulate the height, location, and visual impact of utility structures such as power lines and telecommunications towers.
- 4) **Plan for the annexation of new territory to the Town of Edgewood to ensure an adequate level of municipal services to the property owners within the Town limits.** [B-1, B-2]
- Place a higher priority on the annexation of infill or adjacent areas where an acceptable level of infrastructure currently exists.
  - Continue to impose an annexation policy that requires a rigorous analysis of the overall costs and benefits to the Town.
  - Seek to annex unincorporated lands that are completely surrounded by the Town of Edgewood.

## **Category: Housing Strategies**

- 5) **Establish site development standards to allow for a greater variety of housing design and construction that would be compatible with existing residential areas.** [A-1, A-2, D-1]
- Ensure housing opportunities for new residents, regardless of age, ethnic, racial, cultural, or socioeconomic background.
  - Site development plans should consider innovative design and “smart growth” concepts which include:
    - variable densities;
    - integrated mixed use;
    - community commons and shared facilities;
    - separation and buffering elements;

- drought tolerant landscaping;
  - environmental protection areas; and
  - pedestrian amenities.
  - Provide incentives for affordable housing units that are distributed throughout the Town rather than concentrated in one area or neighborhood.
- 6) **Investigate the feasibility of mixed-use development incorporating residential space into commercial structures.** [A-2, A-3]
- Review design standards for “live-work” commercial building arrangements for local entrepreneurs or residents transitioning out of home occupations.
  - Review design standards for mixed-use developments through site design, appearance, buffering, and proper scale of development for compatibility with neighboring properties.
- 7) **In order to accommodate a growing elderly population in the Edgewood area, the Town should support the development of housing for senior citizens.** [D-1, D-2]
- Establish flexible housing design standards to serve and facilitate elderly residents in the community (e.g., handicapped accessibility, reduced floor areas, pedestrian amenities, and “eldercare” services).
  - Support the development of retirement communities in the Greater Edgewood Area such as group homes and assisted living centers.

## **Category: Transportation Strategies**

- 8) **Implement a local streets evaluation system to identify priorities for improvements based on current needs.** [E-2, E-3]
- Develop criteria for a street conditions rating system to determine which streets should be improved and what source of funding should be used.
  - Utilize multiple funding sources to construct and maintain paved streets in Edgewood.
  - Prepare a Street Improvements Program to be recommended to the Town Council on an annual basis.
  - Work with the NM Department of Transportation to coordinate development reviews, land plats, site plans, environmental documents, traffic studies, and capital improvements for proposals along state and interstate highways.
- 9) **Establish a long-range street system plan for Edgewood to ensure adequate local and regional traffic circulation for the future.** [E-1]
- The Town Council should adopt and maintain a long-range street system plan for Edgewood that pertains to the development of a regional street and highway network.
  - The long-range street system plan should provide a framework for review of land subdivisions, street capacity improvements, route location study corridors, protection of future rights-of-way, highway administrative classification, and other transportation related issues.

- Ensure that safe and adequate access will be provided for all properties.
  - Maintain a street network that minimizes traffic congestion and other negative impacts caused by excessive traffic flow through the Edgewood area.
- 10) **Provide for the development of multi-modal transportation systems in the Edgewood area.** [F-1, F-2, F-3]
- Designate a specific and secure site in Town for park-and-ride connections for commuting by transit and ridesharing.
  - In multiple use areas, provide for efficient parking management through joint use or shared parking areas.
  - Develop a system of local bikeways and pedestrian trails that link to other regional systems, while minimizing negative impacts on private property.
  - Participate in a Regional Transit District to provide public transit opportunities and services to Edgewood residents.
  - Investigate and pursue alternative sources of funding for transportation systems on a regional scale.

## **Category: Public Service Strategies**

- 11) **Collaborate with local water utility companies and develop joint agreements to provide long-term protection of water resources.** [G-1, G-2, G-4, G-5]
- Prepare and adopt a ground water protection plan that regulates land use activities in order to prevent the contamination of water resources in the Edgewood area.
  - Develop and implement a water conservation program that includes collection of water use data, incentives (e.g., rebates and free retrofits for high water-use fixtures) for consumer water saving techniques, restrictions on water waste, water recycling and reuse, public education projects, and an action plan for water shortage emergencies.
  - Provide for the collection and treatment of wastewater in appropriate areas of the community in order to protect groundwater from contamination.
- 12) **Develop and implement a storm water management plan for the Town.** [G-3]
- Adopt a master plan for storm water drainage and watershed management for the Edgewood area in collaboration with other agencies such as the Edgewood Soil and Water Conservation District and Santa Fe County.
  - Continue to regulate land development in flood-prone areas in the Town, as designated and mandated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
  - Regulate grading and site development activities within the jurisdiction of the Town to preserve the natural drainage topography and minimize soil erosion to the extent possible.
  - Evaluate the need for flood control structures and non-structural techniques (e.g., on-site retention) to minimize pollution carried by storm waters.

- Maintain land use regulations on the storage, use, handling, containment, and treatment of state and federally regulated waste materials in commercial and industrial areas.
- 13) **Improve the efficiency and cost effectiveness of solid waste management in the Town of Edgewood.**
- Conduct a study of the generation and individual disposal of solid waste in the Greater Edgewood area.
  - Provide better access to solid waste transfer facilities.
  - Improve various solid waste programs, including curbside and large item pick-up and disposal, seasonal community clean-up days, recycling programs for residents, and a household hazardous waste program.
  - Organize an education and public awareness program for clean-up and recycling.
- 14) **Continue to improve the emergency response services to protect the residents in the Town of Edgewood.** [H-1, H-2, H-3]
- Ensure adequate operational funds to maintain a full-time Edgewood Police Department.
  - Continue to improve fire-fighting capability in the Edgewood area and seek to lower the Town's ISO (Insurance Service Office) rating in order to decrease costs for homeowner's fire insurance.
  - Study the feasibility of establishing a municipal fire department.
  - The Town should establish a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) in accordance with the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).
  - With the advice of the LEPC, the Town should develop a Disaster Preparedness and Hazards Mitigation Plan based on an analysis of risks of wildfire, flood, extreme weather conditions, accidents, terrorism, and other hazards.
  - The Town should maintain a system for coordinating emergency rescue operations with neighboring governments including the City of Moriarty, and the Counties of Santa Fe, Bernalillo, and Tarrant.
- 15) **Improve medical and health care facilities in the Edgewood area.** [I-1]
- The Town should investigate the viability of establishing a 24-hour urgent care medical facility in the Edgewood area.
  - The Town should promote the establishment of facilities for health and social service agencies in the Edgewood area.
  - Support the development of assisted living facilities with health care clinics for the elderly residents in the Edgewood area.
- 16) **Adopt and implement a Master Plan for Parks and Recreation.** [C-1, I-2, I-3, K-1, K-2, K-3, K-4]
- Prepare and continually update a Master Plan for a system of parks and open space, designated trails, and recreational facilities and programs for the Town.

- Improve and expand existing recreational facilities.
- Appoint and support a recreation committee to assist in planning and development of parks and recreation facilities and services.
- Conduct research and seek funding for developing new recreation facilities and acquiring land for recreational purposes.
- Provide diverse recreational programs that include the arts, health, and environment for all populations and age groups by partnering with other recreationally focused groups and businesses.
- Adopt joint powers agreements with Santa Fe County and Public School Districts to enable shared use of recreation and education facilities in order to reduce costs.

## **Category: Economic Development Strategies**

- 17) **An economic development program should be developed and articulated by the Town government to ensure that adequate revenues are generated to support municipal services and facilities.** [L-1, L-2, L-3]
- The Town should maintain an active partnership with the Estancia Valley Economic Development Association (EVEDA) to supplement the Town's initiatives to maintain a healthy local economy.
  - The Town governing body should consider the establishment of a standing advisory committee on local economic development.
  - The Town should evaluate and formulate strategies for targeting and recruiting new employers to locate in Edgewood, with an emphasis on serving local needs and securing higher wage jobs.
  - Regulatory ordinances should be flexible enough to provide incentives to retain existing and attract new businesses.
  - Seek and support broadband communication services available to residents and businesses in the Edgewood area.
  - Support tourism by focusing on the recreational and environmental assets of the Edgewood area.
- 18) **Promote and provide support for workforce education and job training programs for Edgewood area residents.** [M-1, M-2, M-3]
- Collaborate with local governments, businesses, and educational institutions to provide adult programs for post-secondary education and job training classes for Edgewood residents.
  - Support after-school youth programs that lead to employment opportunities for younger age workers.
  - Develop a long range plan for a public library and education resource center owned and operated by the Town of Edgewood.
  - Provide incentives for day care homes and facilities in the Town of Edgewood as a means of expanding the local workforce.